Equal Rights

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Ecuador Sends Ambassadress of Good-Will

Flying from New York to Washington for "peace and equality," Señora Hermelinda U. de Briones, courageous young Ecuadorian aviatrix who brought messages of good-will from 50,000 Spanish-American women of the "Union de Mujeres Americanas," is shown here in the garden of Alva Belmont House, Woman's Party Headquarters in Washington, at a tea given in her honor. From left to right are the diminutive flier, Mrs. Harvey W. Wiley of the National Council of the Woman's Party, acting as hostess; Mademoiselle Fanny Bunand-Sévastos of the Inter American Commission of Women, and Señora Alfaro, wife of the Minister from Panama. Minister Señor Capitan Colon Eloy Alfaro of the Ecuadorian Legation, Minister Señor Dr. Ricardo J. Alfaro of the Panamanian Legation and other diplomats of Spanish-American countries were present.

Equal Rights

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OBJECT OF THE WOMAN'S PARTY

The object of this organization shall be to secure for women complete equality with men under the law and in all human relationships.

THE LUCRETIA MOTT AMENDMENT

"Men and women shall have Equal Rights throughout the United States and every place subject to its jurisdiction."

"Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation."

[Senate Joint Resolution Number 1]
[House Joint Resolution Number 1]

Introduced in the Senate March 10, 1933, by SENATOR JOHN G. TOWNSEND, Delaware.

Introduced in the House March 9, 1933, by REPRESENTATIVE LOUIS LUDLOW, Indiana.

For the Good of Humanity

WRITE down another triumph to Alice Paul and her co-workers at Geneva composed of the Women's Consultative Committee of the League of Nations.

Fifteen governments, representing four continents—Europe, Asia, Australia and America—have presented to the President of the Assembly of the League of Nations a request that the Equal Nationality Treaty adopted at Montevideo be brought before the First Commission of the League.

As with the marvelous achievement of Doris Stevens and the Inter American Commission of Women at Montevideo, so also in regard to the result accomplished, September 21, at Geneva, when fifteen nations through their ministers sent their request to President Sandler of the Assembly, it takes a little time to fully appreciate this great forward step in the march of women toward the realization of their dream of equality and justice. In North and South America, Europe, Asia, and even in little Australia, there has been added to individual Feminist watch-fires started here and there over the broad surface of the earth, the warm glow of international comity, foretelling a not-distant time when the nationality rights of women shall be the same as those of men all over the world.

But the significance of this latest diplomatic victory lies not merely in its geographical extensiveness, awe-inspiring as that is. Women have a far greater reason to be proud of women today, and that is that their representatives in the field of diplomacy are working not for power for themselves or their own governments, but for humanity and the sisterhood of nations. In an age of dictators and the attempted, in many instances, actual submergence of the individual, they are working for greater individual human liberty, and for international understanding and peace. While Europe and Asia seethe with international conflicts and jealousies, a handful of women working with quiet determination and unquenchable hope have pointed a way to the concord of nations.

Powers and potentates may yet be blind to what these women have accomplished. It will remain for history to show that thoughts and ideas are greater than armies, and that the force of an ideal will crumble the strongest battlements.

Women Must Earn

THE New Jersey Federation of Labor at its recent meeting in Atlantic City protested to the State Alcohol Control Commission against the employment of women in "dispensing beer and liquor-at bars and tables in saloons and cafés." They declared further that, although repeal had been one of President Roosevelt's first moves to increase employment, its object was being defeated by the use of girls and women.

From this we assume that the object of repeal should have been to give jobs to men and that unemployed women in need of food and shelter are of less importance. The members of the Federation would undoubtedly protest that they did not mean it quite that way and would assure us that they were only trying to protect women.

Whether one believes in prohibition or repeal, it is difficult to see why the process of serving liquor is more harmful for women than for men. In fact, in the past, women have withstood the temptation of drink far better than men. It certainly is less harmful for women to earn a living by serving liquor in saloons and cafés than to patronize them as guests as many are doing. Those who feel that women must continue to fill the role of ennobling influence for men can at least comfort themselves with the thought that, when women are dispensing liquor in saloons and cafés, their presence will keep men from being as rowdy as they might be in the company of their own sex.

The complaint of the New Jersey Federation of Labor sounds mightily like that of union waiters in New York State who, at a hearing on a bill to exempt women restaurant workers from the night-work law, asked in an unguarded moment what would become of the hundreds of men waiters if women were allowed to work at night.

The same quality of thought is present in Mussolini's campaign to eliminate women workers from industry and commerce. As the Italian press expresses it, "The exodus of woman from the field of labor would have economic repercussions in many families, but a legion of men would lift humiliated heads."

Through gaining economic independence women have lifted humiliated heads, and they serve notice that they intend to fight any move which would interfere with their right to work for pay.

Fifteen Governments Join in Equality Request

REPRESENTATIVES of fifteen governments, members of the League of Nations, presented a request, September 21, to the President of the Assembly, that the Convention for equality for women in nationality adopted by the Pan American Congress at Montevideo be brought before the First Commission of the League.

The Convention accepted by all the American Republics at Montevideo provides that there shall be no distinction based on sex as regards nationality. It has been ratified by the United States and Chile and is open for adherence of all nations.

The request reads as follows:

21st September, 1934.

His Excellency M. R. J. Sandler,
President of the Assembly,
League of Nations,
Geneva:

YOUR EXCELLENCY:

In view of the world-wide restrictions upon the rights of women—the right to earn a living, the right to an education, to hold public office, to enter the professions—and in view of the interdependence of nationality and the right to work, the following delegations request that there be brought before the First Commission the Convention for equality for women in nationality entered into at the recent Conference of American Republics at Montevideo.

Trusting that this action may be taken immediately, we have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servants:

S. E. Maxim Litvinoff
People's Commissar for Foreign Affairs
U. S. S. R.

S. E. Stefan Osusky
Minister plenipotentiary in Paris
CZECHO-SLOVAKIA

S. E. Demal Hüsnü Bey
TURKEY

S. E. F. Castillo Najera
Minister plenipotentiary in France
MEXICO

S. E. M. Rivas-Vicuna
Ambassador in Rome
CHILE

S. E. Dr. A. Nieto-Caballero
Minister plenipotentiary
COLOMBIA

S. E. M. Quo Tai-chi
Minister plenipotentiary in London
CHINA

S. E. Dr. B. Porras
Minister plenipotentiary in France and Great Britain
PANAMA

S. E. Phya Subarn Sompati
Minister plenipotentiary in London
SIAM

S. E. Dr. E. Brache
Minister plenipotentiary in Paris
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

S. E. M. Constantin Mayard
Minister plenipotentiary
HAITI

The Hon. Sir James Parr
High Commissionar in London
NEW ZEALAND

S. E. M. Wilhelm Munters
Minister plenipotentiary
LATVIA

S. E. Dr. J. M. Cantilo
ARGENTINE

Le Docteur Ivan Soubotitch
YUGOSLAVIA

The Women's Consultative Committee created by the Council of the League of Nations has been actively campaigning to bring the Convention before the present session of the League. The Committee represents five international organizations of women—the International Council of Women, the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, the Inter American Commission of Women, the Equal Rights International and the All Asian Conference of Women.

Among the women now in Geneva working to secure support for the Equal Nationality Convention are: Lady Aberdeen, President of the International Council of Women, and L. C. A. van Eeghen of Doorn, Holland, Hon. Secretary-General of the Council; Mrs. Pethick-Lawrence, Lotta Whyte, Elsie Maitland, Florence McFarlane and Alice Green of London; Lillian von Matsch, Vienna; Dr. Rosa Welt-Straus, Palestine; D. Ginarajadasa, India; O. Peganoff, Lithuania; Leonore Cespedes, Columbia; Mme. Shirin-Fozdar, Persia; J. Kovaleska, Poland; Edith Glanville and Effie Duesbury, Sidney, Australia; Alice Paul and Mabel Vernon, Washington, D. C.; Lola Maverick Lloyd and Emily Bullock, Chicago; Katherine Devereux Blake and Madeleine Doty, New York; Mrs. Allan Roberts, Milwaukee; and Evelyn Newmann, Winter Park, Florida.

"Statelessness: With Special Reference to the United States"

IN her scholarly treatise on "Statelessness: With Special Reference to the United States," published by the Digest Press of the American University Graduate School, Catheryn Seckler-Hudson, Ph.D., says, on page 75:

"Of outstanding importance to all married women in the Americas is the Seventh International Conference of American States held at Montevideo, December 3-26, 1933. To this Conference, all American republics, with the exception of Costa Rica, sent delegations. The convention on nationality contained certain provisions contrary to the citizenship laws and practices of the United States, but the American Delegation announced that it would sign the treaty on the nationality of married women with the reservation that the agreement on the part of the United States was of necessity subject to Congressional action.

"The significance of the draft treaty on nationality of women is clearly set forth in the following brief statement which it contained:

> 'The contracting parties agree that from the going into effect of this treaty there shall be no distinction based on sex in their law and practice relating to nationality.'

"If this simple statement," the author comments, "could be fully accepted and enforced throughout the world, it would obviate almost all the present perplexing problems of nationality of women. It is a step in the proper direction and indicates a growing concern for these difficult situations."

To have the project so brilliantly carried out at Montevideo by the Inter American Commission of Women under the leadership of Doris Stevens endorsed in a work of such authority and distinction as this volume brought out by Dr. Seckler-Hudson is indeed gratifying. The author is Associate Professor and Head of the Department of Government of the American University Graduate School, and her book is to form part of a series of "Studies in International Law and Relations," to be published by the School's Department of International Law and Relations. In fact, as explained in a "Foreword," by Dr. Ellery C. Stowell, Professor of International Law at the American University, the Editorial Board in charge of the publication of the studies has selected this work "as the first number, worthy to initiate the series."

Reverting for the moment to the author's remarks anent the Montevideo Treaty and the advisability of having it "accepted and enforced throughout the world," it is also very interesting to note that, at the very time the book was being printed, Doris Stevens, Chairman of the Inter American Commission, who directed the various plays on the diplomatic chessboard at Montevideo, was moving heaven and earth to have the treaty declared open for adherence to all nations. This she accomplished when she persuaded the Supervisory Committee of the Governing Board of the Pan American Union, May 11, to rule that the treaty or convention was intended to be, and therefore was,

open to non-American States for adherence. Later, on June 5, after the exchange of certain necessary diplomatic courtesies, resulting again from the unremitting efforts of the Chairman of the Inter American Commission of Women, the news that the treaty was open for adherence to the world was communicated, June 14, by Dr. L. S. Rowe, Director- General of the Pan American Union, to J. Avenol, Secretary-General of the League of Nations. Shortly thereafter, Alice Paul, Founder of the National Woman's Party, was influential in having the Women's Consultative Committee of the League of Nations, meeting in Geneva, ask the League Assembly to approve the Equal Nationality Treaty and to submit it to all member nations. Her splendid efforts in this direction were rewarded, September 21, by another triumph in the international field (see page 291) when fifteen governments joined in a request to the League of Nations to have the Equal Nationality Treaty brought before the First Commission of the League.

Meanwhile, Congress had been urged to pass the Equal Nationality Bill, intended to remove the last discrimination against women in the nationality laws of the United States—that denying to mothers Equal Rights with fathers in transmitting nationality to children. It became law on May 10, 1934.

Dr. Seckler-Hudson's book is a most comprehensive and thorough-going treatise on the subject of "Statelessness" and, though the subject is handled "with special reference to the United States," it was inevitable, because of the international scope of the subject, that to a large extent its application to other countries had also to be considered. Its many ramifications can be appreciated from the statement in Chapter II on "Statelessness as a Result of Marriage"—which, because of their recent campaign to secure the passage of the Equal Nationality Bill is of exceptional interest to Feminists—to the effect that "the extent to which such statelessness could arise at the date of the passage of the Cable Act in 1922 is strikingly shown in the nationality laws of at least twenty-four countries which provided that a woman citizen who marries a foreigner loses her own citizenship and acquires that of her husband." Chapter IV, on "Statelessness of Minors," is also specially interesting and informative from the Equal Rights standpoint.

But the volume is not only a compendium of the nationality laws which were in force in the United States at the time of its publication; the author also cites numerous cases with their attendant circumstances to show how deplorable in specific instances the condition of statelessness, of the man or woman without a country, can be. A bibliography is appended, listing court decisions, arbitrations, statutes, and other official sources, such as Congressional and Legislative, and League of Nations and World Court documents, indicative of the great amount of research on which the author's findings are based.

We should also like to call our readers' attention to the fact that the introduction to Dr. Seckler-Hudson's book was written by Dr. James Brown Scott, President of the American Society of International Law, who is a frequent and valued contributor to this magazine. In absolute accord with its author, and likewise with Alice Paul and Doris Stevens, Dr. Scott holds that "it is obviously the duty of the many states forming the international community to provide a universal system by which the possibilities of statelessness may be eliminated."

Reorganized NRA Asked to End Discrimination

DONALD RICHBERG, Chairman of the policy-making committee of the reorganized NRA, was urged by the National Woman's Party last week to use his power to cancel all existing discriminations against women in the NRA codes, and to prevent their inclusion in any codes hereafter established.

Stressing "the great unfairness of allowing the present discriminations against women workers to continue," and emphasizing that "these discriminations negate the very purpose of the Recovery Act and make the term 'code of fair competition' a complete misnomer," Mr. Richberg was asked to "re-establish the principles of equal opportunity and equal pay for equal work which were fundamental in the Recovery Act."

The letter sent to Chairman Richberg reads as follows:

Mr. Donald Richberg,
Chairman, Industrial Emergency Committee,
National Recovery Administration.

DEAR MR. RICHBERG:

On behalf of the National Woman's Party, an organization of women devoted to securing Equal Rights for women in law and in the economic field, I write to you, as the Chairman of the Committee charged with determining the future policies of the NRA, to urge that you consider most seriously the great unfairness of allowing the present discriminations against women workers to continue in the NRA codes.

At present, wage rates are higher for men than for women in many instances. These differentials range from 2½ to 15 cents an hour more for men than for women who are working the same number of hours at the same work. And even in those codes which do not specify wage differentials based on sex, the insertion of the clause, "When females do substantially the same work as males they shall receive the same pay," is a direct suggestion to employers that an unequal wage scale will be sanctioned by the NRA.

In addition to the more than 100 specific discriminations under temporary codes, and many wage discriminations in permanent codes, there are several other provisions which violate the principles of equal opportunity and equal pay for equal work.

These discriminations negate the very purpose of the Recovery Act, and make the term "Codes of fair competition" a complete misnomer.

As you know, the Recovery Act, under which the NRA was established, contained no discriminations against women, and this by direct intent. Women throughout the country applauded this because of the fact that the Recovery Administration promised to establish uniform standards of hours and wages that met the demands of every group.

On August 15, 1933, the Chairman of the National Woman's Party, Florence Bayard Hilles, wrote to the Secretary of Labor, protesting against discriminations against women in a specific code then under consideration. Mrs. Hilles' letter read, in part:

> "We wish to register our strong protest against such injustice and we hope that no code with such provisions may go into effect, even temporarily, but that all regulations governing wages and hours shall be alike for men and women, and that any wage differentials shall be based on the nature of the work, not the sex of the worker."

Under date of August 17, 1933, Secretary Perkins replied as follows:

"Dear Mrs. Hilles:

"I have your letter of August 15. I agree in principle with what you say, and will look into the matter of the temporary code.

"In the rush many temporary arrangements are being permitted based on present practices, but no such differences will appear in the permanent codes.

"Sincerely yours,
(Signed) "FRANCES PERKINS."

In the contemplated reorganization of the NRA we urge that the principles of equal opportunity and equal pay for equal work, which were fundamental in the Recovery Act, be re-established. We have only one thought in writing to you—the ending of all discriminations against women in the NRA.

May we ask that this matter receive your serious attention.

Very truly yours,
(Signed) ANITA POLLITZER,
Vice-Chairman, National Woman's Party.

In a statement issued at Woman's Party headquarters in Washington, Anita Pollitzer, Vice-Chairman of the Party, expressed confidence in Mr. Richberg's position on this question.

"Mr. Richberg has, from the very beginning, as far as we know, indicated his

thorough agreement with the principle of equality," Miss Pollitzer said, "and he has never given any evidence of allowing or sanctioning the grave inequalities which now appear in both temporary and permanent codes. We are confident that he is as favorable to the permanent establishment of the principle of equality for men and women workers as Secretary Perkins has declared herself to be. In a letter, dated August 17, 1933, the Secretary of Labor, in reply to protests against such discriminations, expressed herself in sympathy with the principles of equality in the NRA codes by stating: 'In the rush many temporary arrangements are being permitted based on present practices, but no such differences will appear in the permanent codes.'

"We therefore have real reason to hope that equality between men and women workers will be the permanent policy of the NRA. This would be a tremendous step forward toward economic justice for women, and would help to re-establish their faith in their Government," said Miss Pollitzer, who has just returned from a speaking tour through the Middle West, where she appeared before organized groups of women.

"On every hand," she declared, "there is a growing resentment among women against the systematic encroachments upon their equality of opportunity in the industrial world, and the discriminations against them in the NRA codes. Women have suffered equally with men during the depression and, in addition, have had to fight for their right to earn a living at all. They are now thoroughly aroused to demand fair and equal treatment in the reorganization of industry."

Minnesota Nurses' Association Endorses Equal Rights Amendment

THE Minnesota Nurses' Association at its annual convention in Duluth, September 26 to 29, adopted a strong resolution in behalf of Equal Rights, and went on record in support of the Equal Rights Amendment to the Constitution.

To Sarah Colvin, then Chairman of the National Woman's Party, women are indebted for presenting the argument for Equal Rights to the Association, a group whose membership in Minnesota is over 3000. Anne Goodrich, Dean of Nursing at Yale University, who has been one of America's outstanding Feminists for years, and who has created a spirit of magnificent courage among those who have worked with her, attended the convention, and stressed the need of an amendment granting Equal Rights to Women.

The Advisory Council of the Nurses' Association, which consists of representatives of various groups in the nursing profession and acts in an advisory capacity, passed the resolution unanimously. The resolution as later adopted by the convention reads as follows:

"For more than fifty years women have struggled to secure their enfranchisement: now we have equal political rights with men.

"To the efforts of these women we owe thanks for the opportunity to enjoy the benefits of a liberal education with men.

"There remain, however, in spite of this record of gains in freedom from the limitations placed upon us, because of sex, many discriminations in law because we are women.

"For this reason we urge the adoption of the following amendment to the Constitution of the United States: 'Men and women shall have Equal Rights throughout the United States and every place subject to its jurisdiction. Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation'."

In presenting arguments for the passage of the resolution, Mrs. Colvin said, in part:

"I move the adoption of this resolution by the Minnesota State Registered Nurses' Association and urge that it be presented at the next meeting of the American Nurses' Association for adoption by that body.

"The Board of Directors of the American Nurses' Association, at a meeting held in Washington, April 28, 1934, voted that all State Presidents be notified 'that the Equal Rights Amendment has been brought before the American Nurses' Association frequently and that as frequently it has been refused action, because it is a controversial matter and one which does not come within the purview of the functions of the American Nurses' Association.'

"In an address made before the Council of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, Mrs. Burnita Shelton Matthews, a member of the Council of the National Woman's Party, and recently elected President of the National Association of Women Lawyers, based her argument for the Amendment upon the fundamental need for women to secure the protection of the Constitution of the United States.

"Mrs. Matthews said: 'Under the English Common Law which our forefathers brought from the Mother Country, women had almost no rights which men were bound to respect. The Constitution is always considered in the light of the Common Law and, when women have claimed rights under the Constitution, they have almost invariably been denied, as the Common Law gave women few rights but many duties. Forever behind a man in every State of the United States are the rights of man as man, with a final appeal for these rights to the Supreme Court of the United States, while behind a woman is the medieval English Common Law, which places upon her the stigma of inferiority and bondage.'

"Miss Carey Thomas, the first president of Bryn Mawr College, believes that this is the compelling argument for writing the Equal Rights Amendment into the Constitution.

"Mrs. Matthews further says: 'Women are disqualified as jurors in 27 States. The United States Supreme Court has held that a State cannot bar colored men from jury service because the disbarment would brand them as an inferior class of citizens and deprive them of the equal protection of the law which is guaranteed by the National Constitution, not merely to negroes but to persons, and women are persons. Nevertheless, the court in this case said that certain restrictions might legally be put upon jury service, such as limiting it to males.

" 'The Equal Rights Amendment would put women into the Constitution, so to speak, would strike down the shackles the Common Law places upon them, and would mean that every woman would hold her life, liberty and property under the protection of the general rules governing other human beings.'

"When we stop to consider that nurses are struggling for the right to direct and control their own professional lives, to free themselves from the dictation of governing bodies, such as boards of trustees, medical boards who really believe that they must be allowed to decide the nature and content of the teaching and training of women who are performing such important services for them as nurses do, is it not rather disconcerting to find the board of our National Association voting that the question of securing freedom from an outworn system of Common Law is considered controversial and should not even be brought before us?

"It was my privilege, as First Vice-President of the American Nurses' Association, to be presiding at the convention held in Chicago in 1910, when the Association finally plucked up courage enough to endorse suffrage for women. It was considered controversial in those days and was not passed unanimously, but had only a majority vote.

"It is our desire to lift our profession up to higher educational requirements and to do this we must become a part of the educational world and step out of merely the trade or vocation class.

"Women, and nurses are usually wom-

en, need the removal of all the shackles it is possible for us to get rid of. Freedom before the law and a secure place in the Constitution of the United States, is as important to women as to any man or group of men, whatever race or color they may be. Shall we not enter in and claim the protection it gives to men? Surely our need is as great as theirs."

Margaret Wintringham at Headquarters

By Anyda Marchant

THAT the condition of women in industry in England is analogous to that of American women under the present regime, was the opinion expressed by Margaret Wintringham at a tea given in her honor, October 3, at the Woman's Party Headquarters in Washington. Mrs. Wintringham, who was the second woman member of the British Parliament and the first English-born woman to be so elected, in 1921, as the Liberal member for Louth, Lincolnshire, is visiting the United States this year in connection with a series of lectures on education and the problems of unemployment in England.

Mrs. Wintringham discussed informally the Royal Civil Service Commission and the status of married women in the civil service. At first, Mrs. Wintringham said, women were required to resign on marrying, but exceptions were then made in favor of women who were considered irreplacable. The opportunities for advancement in the various grades of the civil service are by theory equal for men and women, but in practice a great many excuses are found in order to overlook a woman in favor of a man, as in the case of women inspectors on the Board of Education.

The situation concerning special protective legislation for women, with its unfair consequences for women in industries, is getting better in England, in Mrs. Wintringham's opinion. A great deal of the advancement made in this matter is probably due to the efforts of the Women's Electrical Association, which has gained many concessions for women in this field in England, including the employment of women in night work. The greatest opposition to the attempt of women to free themselves from the restrictions of protective legislation comes from organized labor, in England as in the United States, Mrs. Wintringham said.

Before coming to the United States, Mrs. Wintringham visited Russia, where she was much impressed by the marked improvement in the condition of women, Russia providing a striking contrast with the situation in Germany. Mrs. Wintringham is much interested in present trends in the United States, and intends to visit the Century of Progress in Chicago and the University of Wisconsin, returning to England and her official duties late in October.

Included in the group who were present to meet Mrs. Wintringham were:

Maud Younger, Anita Pollitzer, Laura Berrien, Nina Allender, Burnita Shelton Matthews, Anna Milburn, Lucia Hanna Hadley, Dr. Edith Allen, Mrs. Mock, Mabel Van Dyke, Ann Macfarlane, and Sara Grogan.

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom Adopts New Statement of Aims

AMONG the strongest allies of the Inter American Commission of Women and of the National Woman's Party in their efforts to secure world-wide adoption of the Equal Rights Treaty is the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom.

The latest step taken by the League in this direction was the adoption, September 7, by its Congress in session at Zurich, Switzerland, of a resolution, proposed by Alice Paul, giving its approval to the Equal Rights Treaty and asking its Sections to "work for it in their respective countries."

Changing world conditions have also led the League to change its aims, as announced in a recent bulletin, also published at Zurich.

For those who are not members of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, it may be well to call attention to the fact that this world-wide organization of women, which has been holding its Eighth International Congress in Zurich, was actually founded in 1915, while the war was still raging. Many of the women who, in spite of great obstacles, met together at that time on neutral soil and pledged themselves to work for international peace and understanding are still in the forefront of the League's work. But in these nineteen years they have had to adapt their efforts to many extraordinary changes of circumstances. The breakdown of international relations caused by the war, the bitterness and despair produced by the Peace Treaties, the world-wide economic collapse with its unemployment and fall of trade have provoked national crises in country after country. The advent of Communism in Russia and of Fascism and National Socialism in other parts of Europe have led to new hopes, new fears, new politics.

Frau Ragaz, the President of the Swiss Section, and one of the Co-Chairmen, in her opening address to the Congress, spoke of the new spread of the cult of force, of the atmosphere of strife which was brutalizing the whole world.

The League's bulletin states that, "to meet these changed and still changing conditions, a revision of the W. I. L. P. F. was undertaken by the Congress. Thanks to the fundamental nature of the questions at issue, a high level of interest was maintained throughout the debates. The change which was of most general interest was in the statement of aims. While the old statement of aims is still entirely valid as far as it goes, it seemed to many members of the League inadequate in the condition of the world today."

The new Statement of Aims reads:

The W. I. L. P. F. aims at bringing together women of different political and philosophical tendencies united in their determination to study, make known, and abolish the political, social, economic and psychological causes of war, and to work for a constructive peace.

The primary objects of the W. I. L. P. F. remain: Total and universal disarmament, the abolition of violent means of coercion for the settlement of all conflicts, the substitution in every case of some form of peaceful settlement, and the development of a world organization for the political, social and economic coöperation of peoples.

Conscious that these aims cannot be attained and that a real and lasting peace and true freedom cannot exist under the present system of exploitation, privilege and profit, they consider that their duty is to facilitate and hasten by non-violent methods the social transformation which would permit the inauguration of a new system under which would be realized *social, economic and political equality for all without distinction of sex, race or opinion.*

They see as the goal an economic order on a world-wide basis and under world regulation founded on the needs of the community and not on profit.

The work of all the National Sections is based upon the statements adopted and the resolutions passed by the International Congresses of the League.

"The Congress was attended," the League bulletin further states, "by 148 members from fifteen different countries. The largest delegation, outside the Swiss, came from France and was predominantly young, vigorous and militant. It was gratifying, in the absence of our President, Jane Addams, to have a large and representative delegation from the far-off United States of America. Great Britain, the Scandinavian countries, particularly Denmark, and Czecho-Slovakia, were well represented. Most of the other European countries, even some of those under dictatorship, had one or two members present.

"It was natural that women coming from countries with such different political conditions should have different views as to which was the first evil to be combatted and by what means. It was all the more satisfactory that the Constitution, as finally worded, was unanimously passed.

"Among the resolutions voted was one urging the acceptance of the U. S. S. R. in the League of Nations, as a factor in general disarmament, as lessening the danger of war in the Far East and strengthening peaceful relations between peoples. Further resolutions urged the neutralization of Austria, the setting up of a Permanent Minorities Commission, and so on. A vigorous campaign for action was agreed upon, to be carried out by the headquarters office and by National Sections."

Feminist Notes

Opposed to Discrimination

THE Women's Division of the California Civic League mailed out questionnaires to 248 candidates for 30 Assembly seats in the State Legislature. Of the 166 who replied, 112 supported the following resolution: "We stand unalterably opposed to any discriminatory legislation, rules or regulations predicated upon any criteria other than the efficiency and quality of the service rendered and the personal integrity of the workers." Of the balance who responded, 41 supported the resolution with reservations and 13 (one of them a woman candidate) said they would discriminate against women.

The new California Federation of Legal Secretaries with associations in Long Beach, Pasadena, San Diego and Los Angeles, has gone on record as opposing "all legislation discriminating against employment of married women."

Quiz Candidates on Equal Rights

OLIVIA JOHNSON, President of the Minnesota Federation, Business and Professional Women's Clubs, coöperating with the St. Paul Zonta Club and the Minnesota Branch of the National Woman's Party, writes that they are sending questionnaires to candidates in their State regarding their stand on Equal Rights. The Business Women's Legislative Council of California is assisting by sending them copies of its summary of results from a recently circulated questionnaire.

No Chance Against Professional Women

IT takes a woman lawyer, according to a recent newspaper account, to gain matrimonial freedom for another.

This was demonstrated in Chicago Circuit Judge LaBuy's court after Attorney Charlotte McCoy, 25, decided she wanted a divorce from her husband.

She asked Attorney Charlotte Slavitt to procure the divorce for her. When Attorney Slavitt learned that Albert McCoy demanded that his wife give up her law practice, she gladly accepted the case. Professional women, it seemed, frown on the man who puts himself before his wife's career.

So when the two determined feminine attorneys appeared before Judge LaBuy, he granted the divorce. The judge thought a black eye sufficient grounds for the action.

Equal Rights Candidate

SUSAN I. BRUMM of Millersburg, Pennsylvania, has filed a petition as a candidate on the Equal Rights ticket in the Schuylkill-Northumberland District in her State. She will make a "free lance" fight to win the place her brother, the late Representative George F. Brumm, occupied in Congress.

Press Comment

Unequal Laws Unjust to Women

The Delmarva Star, Wilmington, Del., September 2, 1934.

EDITOR, *Delmarva Star:* In connection with the recent controversy regarding discriminations of hours and pay for women as contained in some of the Codes of the NRA, I would like to quote an article written last September entitled "Fair Play" by Florence Bayard Hilles, Chairman of the National Woman's Party.

"Talk about fair play! In the world of sport the handicap is placed upon the strong—in the industrial world it is placed upon the weak (assuming that women are the weaker sex). The flagrant discriminations placed upon women in the proposed industrial codes are certainly not going to help to bring our world back from the chaos in which it is floundering.

"We are told that the success of the NIRA depends upon women, that women make up 80 per cent of the purchasing power of the nation, yet the codes and temporary codes are preferring men in wages, which means by such discrimination that the purchasing power of women is reduced by the codes themselves. Women are being organized throughout the country to make successful the plan by which their own sex is being dealt a cowardly and brutal blow—and how about those organizations which are so opposed to the Equal Rights Amendment on the ground that they disapprove of any kind of blanket code—State or Federal? They seem about to swallow without a murmur the very thing on which they base their reason for finding the Equal Rights Amendment at fault.

"We are suffering mainly from organized greed, together with the aftermath of a world war. We are reaping the harvest of long-continued abuse of governmental power, which has enabled the few to grow rich at the expense of the many. The panacea offered us under the guise of a "new deal" can only help if it has justice as its foundation. In a world composed of men and women, justice will not prevail so long as unequal laws are dealt out to them."

MARGUERITE DUGAN BODZIAK.
August 30, 1934.

She Showed Him

The Milwaukee Journal, August 30, 1934.

YEARS ago in the old soap-box days, says Judge Florence Allen of Ohio who holds the highest judiciary honor ever conferred upon a woman, there was a crusty old Senator whose one answer to the most brilliant arguments, the most logical appeals, of a clever woman who tried to discuss a matter of suffrage with him, was, "It can't be did."

The woman tried new angles, new ways of showing him that it was constitutional to permit women to vote for presidential electors.

"It can't be did," he barked, "and if it can be did, it hain't right."

Judge Allen says, "But it could be done, and it was done, and it was right!

"It's right for women to participate in government, to be part of the life of the nation, to help solve its economic and social problems. It is right for them to be a part of the great movement to establish security—the security of children to live without the threat of murder or kidnap-

ing, of the community not to live under the thumb of the racketeer, of every man and woman ready and able to do useful work to earn a livelihood."

Judge Allen whisked into Milwaukee Wednesday, lunched, gave several brief interviews, addressed the women of the bar who were lunching at the Athenaeum as guests of the Milwaukee County Association of Women Lawyers, and was gone again, all in about two hours.

In her own life—though this she will not be the one to tell you—she has risen over one "can't be did" after another to the United States Circuit Court of Appeals.

"America today is in need of dispassionate, disinterested examination of facts, and shaping of policies according to those facts," she advised. "I don't mean to say that we should not have beliefs. We should have them, we should be willing to fight and to sacrifice for them. But our beliefs should be formulated on examination of facts, just as in the law.

"Our heterogeneous population has, within a short 100 years, given us better poetry, as good novels and as fine art as is being created anywhere in the world, but it has also tended to make us unstable.

"We must help establish an intellectual stability, and that can be done only by hearing both sides and shaping our course according to facts. You, my Republican friends, ought to attend Democratic meetings, and you, my Democratic friends, should attend Republican meetings. Each should hear what the other has to say."

News from the Field

Only Two Weeks Off

TWO weeks from today, October 27, the Eastern Regional Conference of the Woman's Party will be under way at the Hotel Jefferson in Richmond, historic old capital of Virginia and of the Confederacy. All indications point to its being the best interstate gathering, exclusive of the annual meetings, so far held under Party auspices.

Dr. Arabel W. Clark of Philadelphia, the Conference Chairman, will call the two-day sessions to order at 10.30 A. M. Saturday, previous to which there will be a registration of delegates by a committee composed of members of the Virginia Branch. All sessions will be held in the beautiful Palm Room of the Hotel which will be at the complete disposal of the Party during the duration of the Conference.

The tentative program is as follows:

SATURDAY

10.30 A. M. Registration of delegates.

11.00 A. M. Opening session, Arabel W. Clark, Conference Chairman, presiding. Invocation by Mrs. Harvey W. Wiley, of Washington, D. C., former National Chairman of the Party. Addresses of welcome by his Honor, Fulmer Bright, Mayor of Richmond, and his Excellency, Governor George Peery of Virginia. Business session, with reading of the minutes by Rosalie Murtagh of Philadelphia, Conference Secretary; and report of the Conference Treasurer by Anne Townsend of Philadelphia. Appointment of committees on resolutions, finance, and constitution. Reports of State Chairmen by Mrs. Robert F. Hudson of Virginia, Sara B. Cummings of Pennsylvania and Amelia Himes Walker of Maryland.

12.30 P. M. Luncheon. Elsie Graff of Richmond, toastmistress. Speakers: Mrs. Ellis Schnabel of Philadelphia; Edith Hooker of Baltimore, and others.

2.30 P. M. Meeting under auspices of business and professional women. Edwina Avery, leader in the Government Workers' Council of Washington, D. C., presiding. Speakers: Rebecca Lovenstein, lawyer, of Richmond; Josephine Biondi Lippi, lawyer, of Philadelphia; members of the Government Workers' Council and business and professional women of Richmond, the latter to be introduced by Mrs. Robert F. Hudson.

3.30 to 5.00 P. M. Drive about Richmond and environs, stopping at points of historical, art and literary interest.

6.30 P. M. Banquet in Palm Room. Helen Elizabeth Brown, lawyer, of Baltimore, presiding. Speakers: Edith Houghton Hooker, former Maryland State Chairman and Editor of EQUAL RIGHTS; Doris Stevens, Chairman of the Inter American Commission of Women and heroine of Montevideo; Florence Bayard Hilles of Wilmington, Acting National Chairman of the Woman's Party; Mary Winsor and Ella Riegel, outstanding Feminist leaders of Philadelphia; and Gail Laughlin, lawyer and member of the Maine Legislature.

SUNDAY

10.30 A. M. Meeting of Equal Rights Associates. Sara B. Cummings, State Chairman of Pennsylvania, presiding. Invocation by a local clergyman. Discussion on EQUAL RIGHTS participated in by Mrs. Charles Murray of Richmond, Emilie Doetsch of Baltimore and Alma Lutz of Boston, managing and associate editors of EQUAL RIGHTS; Marguerite Smith, Sophie Nordenholz, lawyer, Ida Kloze, lawyer, Elizabeth Hooker, and Betty McGing, all of Baltimore.

12.30 P. M. Dinner. Mrs. Ray K. Flanagan of Richmond, presiding. Speakers: Amelia Himes Walker, Maryland State Chairman; Mrs. Pauline Adams, lawyer, of Norfolk, Va.; Amy Kessler, publicity expert of Philadelphia; Myrtle V. Patterson, of Washington, D. C., President of the Poets' Council of the Party; Geline McDonald Bowman of Richmond, president of the National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs; and Eudora Ramsay Richardson of Richmond, writer.

A short business meeting, with Arabel Clark presiding, at which reports of the resolutions and other committees will be presented, will draw the Conference to a close.

From Baltimore it is possible to travel to Richmond by boat, rail and bus. To travel from that city to Richmond by boat the special rate offered by the Chesapeake Line is $6.88. The boat leaves Baltimore Friday at 6 P. M. and arrives in Richmond about 9 A. M. Saturday. The ticket includes boat transportation to Richmond and stateroom, provided two persons occupy a room, dinner on the boat and breakfast Saturday morning, and return trip to Baltimore, Sunday at 3.55 P. M. by bus.

The round trip by bus is $4.00 from Baltimore.

The week-end Pennsylvania railroad return fare is $6.60, tickets good from Friday noon to Monday midnight.

The Jefferson Hotel offers a week-end rate of $5 per day, which means room, bath and three meals. Delegates may make their own selection of the meals; for instance, early arrivals may prefer Saturday luncheon, banquet and Sunday breakfast, and late arrivals a combination of Saturday banquet, Sunday breakfast and dinner. The charge for the room without meals is $2.50 per person. Subscription to the Saturday banquet alone is $1.50, for Sunday dinner, $1.00 and Sunday breakfast, $1.00.

New Leaflet on "Interstate Compact"

THE Literature Committee announces the publication of a one-page leaflet, "The Menace of the Interstate Compact." It should be circulated widely to awaken women to the importance of opposing this proposed legislation. The leaflet may be obtained for one cent a copy and at the rate of twenty-five for fifty cents.

ROOMS FOR VISITORS IN WASHINGTON

Headquarters of the National Woman's Party announces that several spacious, sunny rooms in Alva Belmont House at 144 B Street N. E., just a block from the Capitol, are available for the use of members of the National Woman's Party temporarily in Washington.

Rooms, $2.00

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